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JUNE 5.

The Rev. H. C. McCook, Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

A paper entitled "On the Genus *Hyliota*," by Graceanna Lewis, was presented for publication.

The death of Dr. W. Lehman Wells, a member, was announced.

Observations on Actinosphærium eichornii.—A communication from Miss S. G. FOULKE on *Actinosphærium eichornii* was read by Prof. H. Carvill Lewis.

It was stated that while observing *Actinosphæria*, four individuals were seen to become fused, as it were, into one mass.

At the end of an hour, this mass had separated into three *Actinosphæria*, two of the original four remaining fused into one.

This double one then became constricted, a little to one side of the middle, apparently being about to separate. In a few minutes the *Actinosphærium* began to eject, at the point of constriction, a thin protoplasmic substance containing transparent granulated globules and free granules. By a waving motion of the rays, the masses of ejected matter were broken up, and the globules set free in the water.

These globules developed from one side an extremely long ray of finely granular protoplasm, slightly elongating at the same time, thus taking an oval shape. No trace of the axial threads peculiar to the rays of adult *Actinosphæria* could be discovered. The average length of these globules, including the ray, was .1422 mm.; without the ray, .0127 mm.

The next act of the globules was the sending out another ray from a point opposite to the first. Minute vacuoles appeared and ranged themselves close to the surface of the globule. Other rays were developed at various intervals of time. The appearance of the young *Actinosphæria* gradually became more perfect in resemblance to the parent. The growth was very slow, the perfect form not being attained for a period varying from one to two weeks, and the size was even then small.

The external layer of vacuoles of the *Actinosphærium* from which the globules had been ejected, contained numbers of granules in active motion. In the different vacuoles the number varied from ten to about one hundred, as nearly as could be counted. They were usually congregated at one point and seemed to be trying to force a way out.

Sometimes a globular mass of protoplasm was seen to run out upon a ray, and then, instead of returning to the body as usual, drop off into the water, and develop into a perfect *Actine-*